

REMARKS

By this amendment, Applicant proposes to add claims 203-214. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 12-20, 22-26, 28, 30-40, 42-45, 47-49, 51-54, 56, 131-133, 135-139, 141-152, 154-158, 160-171, 173-178, 180, 181, 183-188, and 190-214 are pending in this application.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 12-20, 22-26, 28, 30-40, 42-45, 47-49, 51-54, 56, 131-133, 135-139, 141-152, 154-158, 160-171, 173-178, 180, 181, 183-188, and 190-202 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,446,040 to Socher et al. ("*Socher et al.*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,029,180 to Murata et al. ("*Murata et al.*").

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-18, 38-40, 42-45, 131-133, 135-139, 141-149, 170, 171, 173-178, 191, 194, 197, and 200 are allowable over *Socher et al.* for at least the reasons that *Socher et al.* does not teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 1, from which claims 2, 4-8, 10-18, and 191 depend; each and every element of independent claim 38, from which claims 39, 40, 42-45, and 194 depend; each and every element of independent claim 131, from which claims 132, 133, 135-139, 141-149, and 197 depend; or each and every element of independent claim 170, from which claims 171, 173-178, and 200 depend. For example, *Socher et al.* fails to teach or suggest "selection means for selecting whether ... to read out a summary text of the electronic document," as required by claims 1, 38, 131, and 170.

Socher et al. teaches "synthesizing speech from a piece of input text 104" by "retrieving the input text 104 entered into a computing system, and transforming the input text 104 based on the semantics 152 of at least one word of the input text 104 to generate a formatted text 108 for speech synthesis" (Abstract). However, the Examiner acknowledges that *Socher et al.* does not teach "selection means for selecting whether

the speech synthesizer is to read out a summary text of the electronic document” (Office Action, pg. 3, paragraph 4).

Murata et al. does not make up for the deficiencies of *Socher et al.* because *Murata et al.* also fails to teach or suggest “selection means for selecting whether ... to read out a summary text of the electronic document,” as recited in claims 1, 38, 131, and 170.

Instead, *Murata et al.* teaches an information presentation apparatus having a memory that “stores first information including at least one part corresponding to second information. The first information is displayed and the user indicates the part corresponding to the second information in the displayed first information. In response to the indication, a summary of the second information is read from a data file and stored in the memory. The summary is displayed in addition to the first information.” (Abstract.) “A creator [*sic*] of the HTML file A previously prepares the summary file A to store the summary corresponding to the linked part of the HTML file A” (col. 6, lines 10-13). “In general, the content of the summary is the text data. However, a narration (sound) of the summary ... may be used.” (Col. 6, lines 38-42.)

However, outputting a summary of the second information in the form of a “narration (sound),” as in *Murata et al.*, does not constitute “read[ing] out a summary text of the electronic document,” as recited in claims 1, 38, 131, and 170 (emphasis added). “Reading out a text” refers to text-to-speech synthesis, which involves converting text to speech. In contrast, simply outputting a sound as in *Murata et al.* does not constitute operating on text, and therefore also does not constitute converting text to speech.

Thus, claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-18, 38-40, 42-45, 131-133, 135-139, 141-149, 170, 171, 173-178, 191, 194, 197, and 200 should be allowed over *Socher et al.* and *Murata et al.*

Claims 19, 20, 22-26, 28-37, 192, and 193 are allowable over *Socher et al.* for at least the reasons that *Socher et al.* does not teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 19, from which claims 20, 22-26, 28-36, and 192 depend; or each and every element of independent claim 37, from which claim 193 depends. For example, *Socher et al.* fails to teach or suggest “selecting whether the speech synthesizer is to read out a summary text of the electronic document,” as required by claims 19 and 37.

Murata et al. does not make up for the deficiencies of *Socher et al.* because *Murata et al.* fails to teach or suggest “selecting whether the speech synthesizer is to read out a summary text of the electronic document,” as recited in claims 19 and 37. Outputting a sound does not constitute reading out a text by a “speech synthesizer,” as required by claims 19 and 37. A device that simply outputs a sound does not constitute a “speech synthesizer,” which performs text-to-speech synthesis. Thus, claims 19, 20, 22-26, 28-37, 192, and 193 should be allowed over *Socher et al.* and *Murata et al.*

Claims 47-49, 51-54, 56, 150-152, 154-158, 160-169, 180, 181, 183-188, 190, 195, 196, 198, 199, 201, and 202 are allowable over *Socher et al.* because *Socher et al.* does not teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 47, from which claims 48, 49, 51-54, and 195 depend; each and every element of independent claim 56, from which claim 196 depends; each and every element of independent claim 150, from which claims 151, 152, 154-158, 160-168, and 198 depend; each and every

element of independent claim 169, from which claim 199 depends; each and every element of independent claim 180, from which claims 181, 183-188, and 201 depend; or each and every element of independent claim 190, from which claim 202 depends. For example, *Socher et al.* fails to teach or suggest “a selecting step of selecting whether a summary text of the electronic document is to be read out,” as required by claims 47, 56, 150, 169, 180, and 190.

Murata et al. does not make up for the deficiencies of *Socher et al.* because *Murata et al.* also fails to teach or suggest “a selecting step of selecting whether a summary text of the electronic document is to be read out,” as recited in claims 47, 56, 150, 169, 180, and 190. Outputting a sound does not constitute reading out a text, which refers to text-to-speech synthesis. Thus, claims 47-49, 51-54, 56, 150-152, 154-158, 160-169, 180, 181, 183-188, 190, 195, 196, 198, 199, 201, and 202 should be allowed over *Socher et al.* and *Murata et al.*

In addition, dependent claims 191-202 are allowable over *Socher et al.* because *Socher et al.* does not teach or suggest each and every element of these claims. *Socher et al.* is silent on the matter of “processing the electronic document by active diffusion,” as recited in claims 191-202, and the Examiner relies on *Murata et al.* to make up for this deficiency.

However, *Murata et al.* also fails to teach or suggest “processing the electronic document by active diffusion to form the summary text.” *Murata et al.* teaches that a creator prepares a summary file. But *Murata et al.* is silent on the matter of “processing” an “electronic document” to form the summary text, as required by claims 191-202 (emphasis added). Moreover, *Murata et al.* does not teach or suggest processing the

electronic document by “active diffusion,” as recited in claims 191-202 (emphasis added).

The Examiner refers to Figure 8 of *Murata et al.* as allegedly disclosing “active diffusion” (Office Action, pg. 6, paragraph 4). However, Applicant can find no mention of “active diffusion” in Figure 8 or the corresponding text of *Murata et al.* Thus, since *Murata et al.* fails to teach or suggest “processing the electronic document by active diffusion to form the summary text,” claims 191-202 should also be allowed over *Socher et al.* and *Murata et al.*

Added claims 203-214 should be allowed over *Socher et al.* and *Murata et al.* for at least the reason that they depend from independent claims 1, 19, 37, 38, 47, 56, 131, 150, 169, 170, 180, and 190, respectively, which are allowable over *Socher et al.* and *Murata et al.* as explained above. Furthermore, *Socher et al.* and *Murata et al.* fail to teach or suggest, alone or in combination, “processing the electronic document by active diffusion, based on the tag information, to form the summary text,” as recited in claims 203-214 (emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 12-20, 22-26, 28, 30-40, 42-45, 47-49, 51-54, 56, 131-133, 135-139, 141-152, 154-158, 160-171, 173-178, 180, 181, 183-188, and 190-214 in condition for allowance. Applicant submits that the proposed new dependent claims 203-214 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

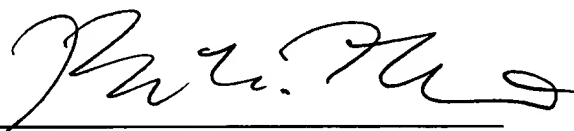
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that this claimed invention, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art references cited against this application. Applicant therefore requests the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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